



MONDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER 2024

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

We would like to warmly welcome all children and families back to school – we've had a really successful start to the school year! A special welcome into our school family to all our new children and parents/carers who have joined us in Nursery and Reception. It is always amazing to see how quickly our youngest children settle into school routines. We are blessed with beautiful indoor and outdoor environments in the Early Years and our youngest students have been very busy exploring all the early years has to offer. Well done Nursery and Reception children – we can't wait to see what you achieve in our school!



Spotlight on.....Pupil attainment and progress

How well is our school doing?

The start of the school year is a good time to share with you how well children at various stages do with their academic studies in our school. There are a number of points in school where children's academic achievement in our school is gathered and compared with schools locally and nationally. At Northowram Primary School, our ambition is that children's achievement and attainment will be in the top 10% of schools nationally linked to our school vision statement of 'Inspiring Success Beyond Expectation'. This is not about league tables or competition but rather to ensure that all children who attend here are exceptionally well-prepared for the next phase of their education by having the knowledge and skills they need to do well in Maths, English and the wider curriculum. In this newsletter, you will find graphs which show how the percentage of children who achieve expected standards in our school compares to national and local averages for the following measure points: End of Reception year (EYFS data), Phonics Screener pass rate (Year 1) and End of Key stage 2 (Year 6) data. In addition, I have included percentile ranking charts which show how close we are to achieving our ambition for children's academic attainment to be in the top 10% of schools nationally. We are delighted that children's academic attainment continues to be well above local and national levels at all measure points – congratulations to all our pupils and our staff team on these wonderful results and a huge thank you and appreciation to all our families for the support and guidance you have given your children which has helped them to make such fabulous progress!



Jane Scardifield





Academic Attainment (Academic year 2023-2024)

<p>Children achieving a 'Good Level of Development' at the end of Reception Year (EYFS) Percentage of pupils compared to national levels</p>	<p>Northowram Primary school percentile ranking within all schools nationally</p>						
<table border="1"> <tr> <th>Category</th> <th>Percentage</th> </tr> <tr> <td>School</td> <td>85.8%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>National</td> <td>67.7%</td> </tr> </table>	Category	Percentage	School	85.8%	National	67.7%	<p>8th</p> <p>2023/24</p>
Category	Percentage						
School	85.8%						
National	67.7%						
<p>Children passing the national Phonics Screening Check at the end of year 1 Percentage of pupils compared to national levels</p>	<p>Northowram Primary school percentile ranking within all schools nationally</p>						
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Category	Percentage						
School	91.7%						
National	86.2%						
<p>Children achieving the expected standard at the end of KS2 (year 6) Percentage of pupils compared to national and local levels READING</p>	<p>Northowram Primary school percentile ranking within all schools nationally</p>						
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Category	Percentage						
School	90.0%						
National	74.3%						
<p>Children achieving the expected standard at the end of KS2 (year 6) Percentage of pupils compared to national and local levels WRITING</p>	<p>Northowram Primary school percentile ranking within all schools nationally</p>						
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School	85.7%						
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<p>Children achieving the expected standard at the end of KS2 (year 6) Percentage of pupils compared to national and local levels MATHS</p>	<p>Northowram Primary school percentile ranking within all schools nationally</p>						
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Category	Percentage						
School	85.7%						
National	73.1%						



Safeguarding

As it is the first newsletter of the school year, it is a good time to remind you all (especially our new families) that if you ever have any concerns around the safety of your children or other children who attend our school, you can phone or make an appointment with any of our three designated safeguarding leads at school:



MRS JANE JENNINGS
PASTORAL LEADER
SENIOR DESIGNATED
SAFEGUARDING LEAD
(DSL)



MRS ALISON WILD
DEPUTY HEADTEACHER
DESIGNATED
SAFEGUARDING LEAD
(DSL)



MRS JANE SCARDIFIELD
HEADTEACHER
SENIOR DESIGNATED
SAFEGUARDING LEAD
(DSL)

You can also send a text message to the following number (school safeguarding mobile phone) and someone will get back to you as soon as possible: 07494 691167

!BREAKING NEWS!

Mrs Jennings (Pastoral Leader) is retiring at the beginning of October.

Mrs Jennings has been a long-serving member of our school community and will be much missed!

We look forward to introducing you to our new Pastoral leader and senior Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) very soon!



Our Forest School takes place within the school grounds in our dedicated Forest School Area.

Forest school is open every day and is a key part of the curriculum for all children in Reception, year 1, year 3 and year 4 as well as for pupils across school with a range of additional needs.

Children attend forest school with our trained forest school instructors (Mr. Wood and Mrs. Duke) for extended periods allowing them to work and learn in all seasons.

This week's photographs show year 3 building a nature picture using natural resources. This class also took great delight in finding 2 frogs near in our wetland area which are were around half-grown meaning our frogspawn which we protected throughout spring has been successful!





CLUBS UPDATE

Our aim is that at least 50% of our children take up an extra-curricular club at some point each academic year.

We offer Sports, Musical, Performing Arts and Arts and crafts clubs which we hope your children will enjoy. We're making some change to our before/after school clubs offer (years 1-6) this year.

We will be offering one 6-week block of clubs (usually three choices) to each phase (y1 & 2, Y3&4, Y5&6) per term. Each block of clubs will take place for the three weeks before and after a half term which then keeps the busyness of the start and end of terms free.

We are also introducing a cost to families of £10 for the whole block of 6 sessions to cover our costs and ensure that we can continue to offer the wide range of extra-curricular experiences that children enjoy.

Look out for a Clubs parentmail soon.



CHARITY NEWS

Thank you to everyone who contributed a delicious cake, donated toys and to all those who attended our bake and toy sale last term.

We have just received a letter of thanks for the RSPCA confirming that the event raised a HUGE £620 which is already being put to very good use in our local animal shelter.

Each year, children choose their charity of the year so watch this space for an announcement this term of this year's charity!



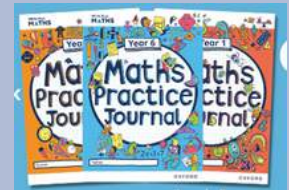
Reminder

NEWS/REMINDERS/UPDATES.....WELCOME MEETINGS

Welcome meetings for families of children in all year groups take place this week. We hope that you may be attend these to find out about the curriculum, timetable and unique aspects of each year group. You will be able to discover the end of year expectations for each year group and how you can support your child with key mathematic calculations, writing, handwriting, reading and homework. We will send the presentation document out to all families following the meeting to ensure that you all have access to this information.

New Maths Homework books

We hope that you are enjoying working with your children on our new Maths homework journals in years 1-6. These resources are directly linked to the learning children have undertaken in their daily Maths lessons each week. The diagrams, explanations and support in the pages will also make supporting your child with their homework an easier experience! If you would like to provide any feedback on these you can contact the school office by telephone or email (admin@northowram.calderdale.sch.uk) and we will ensure that any feedback is passed to our Maths leader Meganne Green.



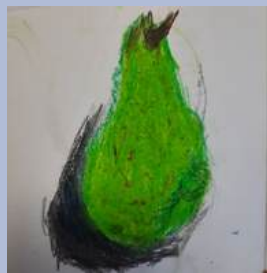
Art Gallery

Children in year 5 are studying a unit on Artistic Style and have been enjoying learning about different styles of Art including the Rococo period, modernist style and in their latest lesson, the still-life style of Van Gogh. Children were set the task of using similar techniques using oil pastels to draw pears first with short defined marks and then in soft pastels using blending techniques. The results show real care and attention to detail.

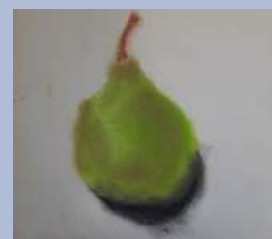
Well done year 5!



'PEAR' BY
HARRY S



PEAR IN
SHADOW' BY
HARRY H



'AUTUMN
PEAR' BY ENYA
B